

Message Text

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11
ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCI-06 NSC-07 NASA-04 MC-02 ACDA-19

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-04

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0549
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY BERN
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

UNCLAS PARIS 16296

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: TECH
SUBJECT: ESRO NAMES ACTING DIRECTOR

1. THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN SPACE RESEARCH ORGANIZATION HAS APPOINTED MR. ROY GIBSON (UNITED KINGDOM) AS ESRO ACTING DIRECTOR GENERAL ON THE DEPARTURE AT THE END OF JUNE OF RETIRING DIRECTOR GENERAL DR. ALEXANDER HOCKER (GERMANY). THE COUNCIL HAS ENTRUSTED TO MR. GIBSON THE FULL POWERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE OFFICE OF DIRECTOR GENERAL TO ENABLE HIM TO ASSURE CONTINUITY OF MANAGEMENT BETWEEN HOCKER'S DEPARTURE AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PROPOSED NEW EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY. MR. GIBSON HAS BEEN DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION AT ESRO'S PARIS HEADQUARTERS SINCE JULY 1971 AND WAS FORMERLY AT ESRO'S SPACE RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY CENTRE, ESTEC, AT NOORDWIJK, NETHERLANDS.

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2. AFP, THE MAJOR FRENCH WIRE SERVICE, NOTES THAT GIBSON'S APPOINTMENT DOES NOT NECESSARILY MEAN HE WILL EVENTUALLY BECOME THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE PROPOSED EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY (ESA). HE WAS RECENTLY NOMINATED AS A CANDIDATE FOLLOWING THE IMPASSE THAT DEVELOPED IN SELECTING BETWEEN THE FRENCH AND GERMAN CANDIDATES. AFP QUOTES "INFORMED SOURCES" THAT THE POST REQUIRES SOMEONE KNOWLEDGEABLE OF ESRO AND ITS PROGRAMS, THE IMPLICATION OBVIOUSLY BEING GIBSON.

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TAGS: TECH, ESRO, (GIBSON, ROY)
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